

# news & views

SUMMER 2011

## RUSH MOVES TO DNP AS PREPARATION FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES



SUZANNE PERRAUD, PhD, PMHCNS-BC (Rush MSN 1984)  
*Director of Specialist Education, Rush University College of Nursing*

Rush University College of Nursing's master's degree programs, doctor of nursing practice (DNP) program and its predecessor, the nursing doctorate (ND), have long prepared nurses to serve as leaders, teachers and partners in delivering and improving care. In fall 2012, Rush will take the next step in the evolution of these programs when it transitions from the master's to the DNP as Rush's sole preparation for advanced practice nurses.

Rush's new DNP With Specialty Certification Program is aimed at preparing advanced practice nurses to provide comprehensive, direct patient care in a variety of specialty areas. The program will have a post-master's option and a post-bachelor's option, allowing bachelor's-prepared nurses to move directly to DNP studies without first receiving a master's degree. The DNP With Specialty Certification will replace Rush's clinical nurse specialist, community/public health, certified nurse anesthetist and nurse practitioner master's options. Rush will continue to offer the popular DNP in Systems Leadership Program, a post-master's practice doctorate that prepares graduates for systems-level leadership and improving health outcomes in a variety of settings.

"With the DNP, we're not preparing physician substitutes or extenders," said Suzanne Perraud, PhD, PMHCNS-BC (Rush MSN 1984), associate dean for academic affairs and director of specialist nursing education. "The DNP places advanced practice nurses on equal ground with doctorally prepared health professionals in other fields, giving them broader influence

within health care settings and better preparing them for complex delivery of care."

Through projects for the DNP program, Rush's students work to solve complicated patient care problems across clinical settings. A project by 2009 graduate Melinda Noonan, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, director of nursing operations at Rush University Medical Center, directed the development of a new model for patient flow to reduce patient admission wait times and overcrowding. Noonan's work decreased wait times in Rush's emergency department by 36 percent and increased availability of beds to accommodate an additional 99 external hospital transfer patients.

2008 graduate Karlen ("Beth") Luthy, DNP, assistant professor of nursing at Brigham Young University, recognized an opportunity to improve immunization compliance in Utah County, Utah — then the least compliant county in the second least compliant state. By launching a widespread public awareness and educational campaign and expanding access to immunization services, Luthy's project increased the county's immunization rates by 11 percent and decreased incidence of whooping cough and chicken pox in the county by 64 percent and 12 percent, respectively.

According to program administrators, DNP preparation not only fosters these kinds of meaningful improvements in care and the health of communities, it also strengthens nurses' ability to shape the future of health care.

"What Rush has always done best is to prepare nurses as leaders who are able to make complex decisions about the systems in which they work," said Mary Faut Rodts, DNP, CNP, ONC, FAAN (Rush MSN 1980 and DNP 2007), associate professor and DNP program coordinator. "Our new DNP options stay true to that tradition, while helping students make an immediate impact on patient care."

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## MESSAGE FROM DEAN MELANIE DREHER

### THE DNP MOVEMENT MOVES NURSING FORWARD

Rush's decision to raise the level of preparation for advanced nursing practice from the master's degree to the doctorate reflects the broad consensus of our field. In 2004, following three years of research and consensus building, member schools affiliated with the American Association of Colleges of Nursing (AACN) voted to endorse the *Position Statement on the Practice Doctorate in Nursing*. This decision called for all preparation for advanced practice nursing to occur at the doctoral level by the year 2015.

That said, the DNP is not the invention of the AACN. Its beginning was entirely grass roots — growing from seeds planted three decades ago at schools like Rush, where visionary deans who understood the importance of degrees and credentials promoted the first practice doctorates in nursing. Just as we've always been, Rush remains committed to a progressive vision of moving nursing forward and ensuring that our graduates are highly prepared for nursing practice, now and in the future.

As nurses, we are called upon not only to engage in inter-professional practice but often to lead it. As such, the DNP movement acknowledges the need to establish practice doctorates that place the profession in equal status among other practice professions, fields such as medicine, dentistry, clinical psychology, physical therapy and audiology. DNP curriculum and a BSN-to-DNP track helps meet that need by providing additional education in evidence-based practice, quality improvement, systems leadership and other content areas critical to health care leadership. We firmly believe this expanded curriculum leads to improved clinical outcomes and broader influence for nurses in shaping the direction of health care.

While the DNP educational model evolves, we will continue to work on efficacious pathways for our alumni to pursue DNP degrees, if they choose to do so, and we will continue to honor our pledge to provide our graduates with the knowledge they need to be the best in their fields.

Sincerely,

## WHICH DNP OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE?

- **The BSN/MSN-DNP with specialty certification** provides specialty knowledge to practice in a chosen clinical area with additional education in evidence-based practice, quality improvement, systems leadership and other content areas that will lead to improved clinical outcomes in complex systems.
- **The MSN-DNP with a system leadership focus** prepares graduates to affect change and improve clinical outcomes through system redesign and evidence-based decision making in a variety of clinical, organizational and educational systems.

For more information about the DNP programs and a listing of specialty certification options, visit [www.rushu.rush.edu/nursing/dnp](http://www.rushu.rush.edu/nursing/dnp).



## ALUMNA PROFILE: ANGELIQUE RICHARD, BSN 1985, MSN 1988

CHIEF NURSING OFFICER AND VICE PRESIDENT OF PATIENT CARE SERVICES, ST. FRANCIS HOSPITAL; RUSH-PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S NURSES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

**At Rush we try to instill a number of values in our nursing students. Do you have a philosophy of nursing that has guided your own work?**

Whatever level of nursing you're practicing at, I always remember that it is truly a privilege to serve others. We're allowed to be part of some of the most personal, most defining moments of our patients' lives, from birth to death and everything in between. And with great privilege comes responsibility: a responsibility to maintain our skills and remain current in our practice and a responsibility to maintain a strong level of collaboration with our fellow nurses and with professionals from other health care fields.

**What is your proudest recent accomplishment?**

St. Francis Hospital, where I serve as chief nursing officer, recently achieved Magnet status for the first time, and the whole process has been a thrilling, exciting, emotional journey. I remember that I felt so much pride when Rush's nurses earned Magnet designation for the first time, and I'm sure many of my fellow alumni did too. I've spent my career trying to recreate that same high standard and level of nursing excellence that I experienced at Rush. In fact, I attribute so much of my success to my Rush beginnings.

**Tell us about the mission that's driving the activities of the Nurses Alumni Association.**

The mission for the alumni association is very simple: to enhance the amount of alumni involvement and support of the college. Yes, we want to support the college and the current students financially, but we also want to serve as a professional resource for current students at Rush. Our alumni have so much knowledge and experience to offer our students, and you'll see that reflected in programming like our alumni guest speaker series with the Student Nurses Association and alumni mentoring through our AlumNet program.

**What does being a Rush alumna mean to you?**

No matter where my career has taken me, I've always felt that I'm part of the Rush family. And I can tell you with absolute certainty that this feeling is not unique to me — that it is shared by other alumni practicing all over the world. I think we're very fortunate in that; alumni elsewhere don't necessarily have that same sense of pride. At Rush, I got more than an outstanding education — I got a lifelong connection. It's been a gift, and I'm very honored to be able to serve with a wonderful board and help build upon that connection for Rush's students and alumni.



*“At Rush, I got more than an outstanding education — I got a lifelong connection. It's been a gift, and I'm very honored to be able to serve with a wonderful board and help build upon that connection for Rush's students and alumni.”*





## COLLEGE NEWS

### FACULTY NEWS ::

**ELIZABETH CARLSON, PhD, RN (DNSc 1988)**, associate professor of adult health and gerontological nursing, was named a 60th Anniversary Recognized Leader by the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Nursing.

**CAROL J. FARRAN, DNSc, RN, FAAN (DNSc 1985)**, the Nurses Alumni Association Professor of Health and the Aging Process, has received one of three American Academy of Nursing Raise the Voice Edge Runner awards for 2010, acknowledging her work promoting the mental and physical health of family caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease.

**MARK FOREMAN, PhD, RN, FAAN**, chairperson and professor of adult health and gerontological nursing, received a 2010 American Journal of Nursing Book of the Year Award as a co-editor of *Critical Care Nursing of Older Adults: Best Practices*.

**WRENETHA JULION, PhD, MPH, RN (DNSc 2002)**, associate professor of women, children and family nursing, was elected to the Institute of Medicine of Chicago.

**RUTH KLEINPELL, PhD, RN, FAAN, FCCM (CERT. 1995)**, professor of adult health and gerontological nursing and director of Rush's Center for Clinical Research and Scholarship, has been elected president of the World Federation of Critical Care Nurses. She also was recently given the SAGE Award at the 13th Annual Power of Nursing Leadership Event sponsored by the University of Illinois at Chicago College of Nursing.

**SUSAN SWIDER, PhD, APHN-BC**, professor of community, systems and mental health nursing and specialty coordinator of the Advanced Public Health Nursing Program, has been appointed to President Barack Obama's Advisory Group on Prevention, Health Promotion, and Integrative and Public Health. She will serve with 12 other members from various city, county and state agencies, nonprofit organizations and academic institutions.

**JOELLEN WILBUR, PhD, APN, FAAN**, associate dean for research and the Independence Foundation Professor of Nursing, received the Distinguished Contribution Award from the Midwest Nursing Research Society.

### RESEARCH NEWS ::

**ANNMARIE KEENAN, MSN, RN, AOCN (MSN 1983)**, assistant professor of adult health and gerontological nursing, received the Doctoral Research Award from Chicago's chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society for her study on the effect of music as an intervention to relieve cancer-related pain among hospitalized patients.

Principal investigator **RUTH KLEINPELL, PhD, RN, FAAN, FCCM (CERT. 1995)**, and her investigative team, including **LOUIS FOGG, PhD**, assistant professor of community, systems and mental health nursing, and alumna **REBECCA J. ZAPATOCHNY-RUFO, DNSc, RN, CCRN (DNSc 2003)**, received a \$50,000 American Association of Critical-Care Nurses Impact Award to perform a national benchmarking study of more than 20,000 nurses working in telemedicine facilities.

**MICHAEL KREMER, PhD, CRNA, FAAN (DNSc 1997)**, director of the Nurse Anesthesia Program and associate professor of adult health and gerontological nursing, received funding from the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Foundation for his study of office-based anesthesia practice in the U.S.

**PAULA MEIER, DNSc, RN, FAAN (DNSc 1985)**, professor of women, children and family nursing, with neonatologist Aloka Patel, MD, and researchers from Duke University, received funding from the Agency for Research on Healthcare Quality to evaluate the effectiveness of adopting human milk feeding in NICUs.

**MARILYN WIDEMAN, DNP, RN-BC (DNP 2007)**, director of faculty practice and outreach and associate professor of community, systems and mental health nursing, was awarded a \$40,000 grant from the VNA Foundation to establish prenatal care services at Rush's school-based health centers at Richard T. Crane Technical Preparatory Common School and Orr Academy High School, both on Chicago's West Side. Wideman also received \$78,000 from the Golden Lamp Society and nearly \$45,000 from the March of Dimes to develop a prenatal and postpartum health center for at-risk pregnant and parenting youth at Simpson Academy for Young Women and a two-year, \$110,000 grant from the Polk Bros. Foundation to support mental health services at all three schools.



## CLASS NOTES

### PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S ::

**JUDITH VENEMA DOMBROW, 1960**, and her husband, Jack, moved to Frederick, Md., in 2006 to be hands-on grandparents to their granddaughters, Brianna and Meghan. She writes that they are “enjoying life on the Eastern Seaboard and learning about life south of the Mason-Dixon line and the Civil War.” Dombrow would love to hear from classmates. To be put in touch with her, or any of the alumni featured in Class Notes, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at [alumni@rush.edu](mailto:alumni@rush.edu) or (312) 942-2569.

### RUSH ::

**STEPHEN K. VAN DEN EEDEN, BSN 1979**, was named adjunct professor in urology at the University of California San Francisco. He also is a lecturer in epidemiology at Stanford University and a research scientist at Kaiser Permanente of Northern California.

**ELLEN S. KUBISZ, BSN 1983**, is director of care coordination for RML Specialty Hospital Chicago. RML focuses on treating and weaning patients dependent on mechanical ventilators and is the largest ventilator-weaning hospital in the nation.

**FREDERICK M. BROWN, BSN 1989, MSN 1994, DNP 2007**, has been appointed unit director of 9 South Atrium at Rush University Medical Center. Brown was most recently an assistant professor in the College of Nursing. During his career, he has been an orthopedic clinical nurse specialist at Mercy Hospital, Lakeside Orthopedics and Midwest Orthopaedics at Rush and clinical nurse manager of an orthopedic unit at Northwestern Memorial Hospital. Brown also is a retired lieutenant commander in the Navy reserves.

**ANNE MARIE HERLEHY, BSN 1993, DNP 2009**, is president of the Association of periOperative Registered Nurses for the 2011–2012 term. Herlehy is administrative director for perioperative and cardiovascular services at Alexian Brothers Medical Center and sits on the board of directors for the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association.

**REBECCA MCALLISTER, DNP 2001**, is an assistant professor in the Department of Health Promotion and Development at the University of Pittsburgh School of Nursing.

**M. ANNIE MULLER, DNP 2003**, joined the faculty of Francis Marion University as an assistant professor of nursing for the 2010–11 school year.

**LESLIE FORRESTER, BSN 2004**, and her father, plastic surgeon Leon Forrester Tcheupdjian, MD, were featured in a reality show titled *Plastic Royalty* on Chicago NBC affiliate NBC-5 last fall. A story about their work also appeared in the online newspaper *Skyline: News of Lincoln Park, Old Town, River North and Gold Coast*. Forrester is head nurse at the Liposuction and Cosmetic Surgery Institute.

**SHARON A. ALLEN, MSN 2005**, of Chicago has been named assistant unit director of 10 Kellogg at Rush University Medical Center.

**RACHEL GRAUNKE ANDREWS, BSN 2005**, of Naperville, Ill., recently completed her certification in neonatal intensive care nursing. Andrews works in the neonatal intensive care unit at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield, Ill.

**DEONNE JEANETTE BROWN BENEDICT, DNP 2005**, opened Charis Family Clinic in Edmonds, Wash., in June 2009. The clinic provides personalized, full-spectrum family practice services, including low-cost programs for the uninsured or those who cannot afford care. Benedict received the 2010 American Academy of Nurse Practitioners State Nurse Practitioner Award of Excellence.

**JERALYNNE R. CECILIO, BSN 2005, MSN 2009**, of Rolling Meadows, Ill., does medical home visits as an adult nurse practitioner to homebound patients in the Chicago area.

**JASON PAGSISIHAN, MSN 2010**, of Chicago, is a registered nurse in Rush University Medical Center's emergency department.



## IN MEMORIAM



### ST. LUKE'S ::

VIRGINIA WALSH HOTTON, 1942, of Skokie, Ill.; July 8, 2010

EUGENIA WYSATT FRANZBLAU, 1944, of Arlington Heights, Ill.; March 15, 2011

MARY NUNN HICKS, 1947; Jan. 6, 2010

PHYLLIS LIND BEST, 1948, of Shoreline, Wash.; March 5, 2010

ELLEN ANNE PLANK MEYER, 1954, of Burr Ridge, Ill.; Nov. 12, 2010

JANE STAUFFER JONES, 1956, of Bend, Ore.; April 23, 2011

BARBARA J. KRANWINKLE PEER, 1958, of South Boston, Va.; June 20, 2010

ELIZABETH FLEURY ERNST, 1959, of Cerrillos, N.M.; Aug. 4, 2010

### PRESBYTERIAN ::

GWENDOLYN ELROD CARLSON, 1946, of Richfield, Minn.; Feb. 7, 2011

BARBARA WATT STREGE, 1946, of West Covina, Calif.; April 12, 2011

IONE FRYE MOROSIN, 1947, of Houston; Sept. 15, 2010

MARILYN TRICKEY LOVE, 1951, of Belleair Bluffs, Fla.; Jan. 28, 2011

### PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S ::

JANET KAY DAHLQUIST GALLATI, 1961, of Parrish, Fla.; Aug. 26, 2010

JUDITH A. HARTWIG STILKE, 1964, of Twin Lakes, Wis.; Nov. 11, 2010

### RUSH ::

MARY ELIZABETH ("LISA") NEYLAN COTTRELL, BSN 1978, of Glenview, Ill.; Feb. 2011

NANCY BRNCICK, MSN 1981, of Frankfort, Ill.; Aug. 27, 2010

CHRISTOPHER WAGNER BECK, BSN 1990, of Chicago; Nov. 2010

## RUSH RANKS HIGHLY IN LATEST U.S. NEWS GRADUATE SCHOOLS SURVEY

Rush University is well-represented in the 2012 edition of the *U.S. News & World Report* "America's Best Graduate Schools" survey. The College of Nursing is ranked No. 15 among the 467 nursing colleges with graduate programs and is ranked in the top 20 in the nation in seven nursing specialties:

- Nursing Anesthesia — No. 3 (*retained No. 3 place since 2007*)
- Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing — No. 4 (*up from No. 6 in 2007*)
- Adult/Medical Surgical Nursing — No. 4 (*new to rankings since 2007*)
- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner — No. 5 (*up from No. 7 in 2007*)
- Gerontological/Geriatric Nurse Practitioner — No. 7 (*up from No. 9 in 2007*)
- Adult Nurse Practitioner — No. 7 (*up from No. 9 in 2007*)
- Family Nurse Practitioner — No. 19

A pioneer of the practitioner-teacher model for nursing education, a champion of advanced clinical degrees for nurses and the nation's first male dean of a school of nursing, **LUTHER CHRISTMAN, PhD, RN**, emeritus dean of Rush University College of Nursing, died June 7, 2011. Christman was the College of Nursing's first dean and the vice president for nursing affairs at then Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center from 1972 until his retirement in 1987. There, he shaped the field of nursing by implementing the Rush Model for Nursing, which included the merging of nursing education and practice, as well as primary nursing as a means to improve patient care.



Christman also helped establish the National Male Nurse Association (now the American Assembly for Men in Nursing), was honored with the first Lifetime Distinguished Achievement Award from Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing and was inducted into the American Nurses Association Hall of Fame. Look for more on Christman's deep influence at Rush and on the field of nursing in our forthcoming fall/winter issue of *News & Views*. Gifts to Rush in Christman's memory can be directed to the Dorothy and Luther Christman Endowed Scholarship Fund for Nursing using the enclosed envelope or by visiting [www.rush.edu/giveonline](http://www.rush.edu/giveonline).



## SHEKLETON-CLEMENT SCHOLARSHIP STRENGTHENS FUTURE OF GERONTOLOGICAL NURSING EDUCATION

In the face of an aging population, our nation desperately requires skilled caregivers and health care administrators dedicated to meeting the needs of older patients. To that end, College of Nursing alumna Maureen F. Shekleton, PhD, RN, FAAN (DNSc 1982), and her sister Dolores G. Clement, PhD, a 1981 alumna of Rush's College of Health Sciences, have endowed a scholarship for students who are dedicated to meeting those needs.

The Shekleton-Clement Family Endowment for Gerontological Scholarship will fund scholarships for students in the College of Nursing and the College of Health Sciences' Health Systems Management Program with an interest in geriatric patients and services.

"My sister and I both value the education and work experiences we received at Rush. We wanted to give back, but also to build on Rush's strengths in gerontology and make a difference in the care of these patients," Shekleton said. "Not only will our gift help Rush prepare the best gerontological practitioners in the College of Nursing, but it will also help the College of Health Sciences to improve the practice environment for gerontology by training the administrators who will shape that environment."

## MEMORIAL GIFT HONORING ALUMNA SUPPORTS INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

A memorial gift from the family of a late St. Luke's alumna will leave a lasting legacy while supporting Rush University College of Nursing's students. William H. Hosken, husband of 1958 St. Luke's alumna Beverly Jane McElmurry, EdD, RN, FAAN, has made a gift in his wife's memory to Rush University Medical Center. McElmurry passed away May 14, 2010. The Beverly J. McElmurry Scholarship will provide scholarship support to one international nursing student each year for the next four years.

"Beverly had a strong relationship to Rush on so many levels," Hosken said of the spirit of this gift. "Some of her students became faculty there, she was treated well by the nurses from Rush in her terminal illness, and above all, she was a proud graduate of the St. Luke's diploma program and remained close with her fellow Class of 1958 graduates."

To learn about honoring a friend or loved one through a gift to Rush, contact Lisa Gerberding at (312) 563-3164 or [Lisa\\_Gerberding@rush.edu](mailto:Lisa_Gerberding@rush.edu).

## news & views

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Continuing Education Opportunity:**  
**Structural Equation Modeling With Freeware-R**  
Friday, August 12, 2011  
Rush University Medical Center Campus  
Chicago, Ill.

**Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Homecoming**  
Saturday, October 1, 2011  
Rush University Medical Center Campus  
Chicago, Ill.

Find more information about these events at  
[www.con.rushalumni.org/events](http://www.con.rushalumni.org/events).

# news & views

SUMMER 2011

## RUSH-PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S NURSES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2010 – 2012 BOARD ROSTER

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(Rush 1985 and 1998)

### PAST PRESIDENT

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PhD, FAAN (Pres.-St. Luke's  
1976 and Rush 1979 and 1984)

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MS (Rush 1984)

Marilyn K. Wideman, DNP, RN,  
BC (Rush 2008)

Rebecca J. Zapatochny-Rufo,  
DNSc, RN, CCRN (Rush 2003)

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## FOUNDING DEAN CHRISTMAN SHAPED FIELD OF NURSING



LUTHER P. CHRISTMAN, PhD, RN, FAAN  
*Founding Dean, Rush University College of Nursing*

Over the last 40 years, the field of nursing has seen an upward trajectory in terms of professionalism, parity, autonomy and accountability. All of this progress, both at Rush and beyond, was shaped in large part by a trailblazer in nursing education and practice: the late Luther P. Christman, PhD, RN, FAAN, founding dean of Rush University College of Nursing.

The nation's first male dean of a college of nursing and the founder of the American Assembly for Men in Nursing, Christman was a major proponent of men and minorities in nursing at a time when males were not readily accepted in the field. He encouraged nurses' accountability for patient quality and safety and created a shared governance model, in which clinical nurses shaped nursing care, policies and procedures through Rush's Professional Nursing Staff. What's more, Christman's Rush Model of Nursing, which integrated nursing practice and education, has served as a model for nursing education worldwide.

"The shift to using practicing clinicians to educate nursing students changed everything," said Karen Lamb, DNP, RN, GCNS-BC (Pres.-St. Luke's 1967, Rush MSN 1982, DNP 1991). "With the practitioner-teacher model, students still get excellent hands-on training, as predecessor school alumni did in the diploma schools, but they're also learning how to think critically, which is absolutely crucial to nurses' ability to keep up with the rapid expansion of knowledge and technology in health care today."

Much of Christman's practitioner-teacher model was based on his belief that nurses can and should aspire to higher levels of graduate education. He established the nursing doctorate (ND) at Rush, now known as the doctorate of nursing practice (DNP), so that nurses would be better prepared to apply the latest clinical knowledge.

"Luther Christman was a big advocate of the idea that nurses should have parity with other disciplines," said Jane Llewellyn, PhD, RN (PhD 1982). "He always said, 'You can't use knowledge you don't have.' He believed that, like physicians, we need to be able to teach and generate that disciplinary knowledge. At a time when many still didn't believe nursing could or should advance beyond diploma education, he promoted a vision for doctorally prepared nurses at the bedside."

On Nov. 6, Rush University College of Nursing and Rush University Medical Center will reflect on Christman's many contributions to practice and education — from quality assurance to his support of men in nursing — in a special tribute symposium (see page 2). A range of nursing leaders — including Lamb; Llewellyn; Sue Hegyvary, PhD, professor and dean emerita of University of Washington School of Nursing; and representatives from the American Assembly for Men in Nursing — will reflect on Christman's leading-edge approach, a vision that Joyce Keithley, DNSc, RN, FAAN (DNSc 1980), says is still being realized.

"Luther Christman was ahead of his time. In many ways, the field of nursing is still trying to catch up with his vision. And he put Rush at the forefront of this work," Keithley said. "The College of Nursing opened in 1972, and within a few short years, we were on the map as a leader in the field. Our *U.S. News* rankings, Rush's three-time Magnet designation, our record for producing some of the nation's top nursing leaders: we can trace all of this back to Luther's leadership."

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**Message from Dean Melanie Dreher** Nursing alumna helps shape Rush's new hospital **Rush honors Christman through scholarship, symposium** Meet the new director of alumni relations **Explore Rush's new Tower College** news **Upcoming events** In memoriam **Class notes**



## MESSAGE FROM DEAN MELANIE DREHER

### CHRISTMAN'S COURAGE TO PURSUE OUR VISION

Luther Christman, PhD, RN, FAAN, pursued a bold vision for what the profession of nursing could become.

At a time when men were severely underrepresented in nursing, Dr. Christman paved the way for them to enter the profession. At a time when clinical nursing practice was focused on performing tasks, he promoted a model of primary nursing that empowered nurses to treat the whole patient. At a time when physicians were the unequivocal and exclusive decision makers, he advocated for doctorally prepared nurses to lead collaboratively in the delivery of care.

At our tribute symposium this November, we will celebrate Dr. Christman's far-reaching impact on our field. We will honor both his forward-thinking ideas, and the courage it took to pursue them. Many of Dr. Christman's innovations in nursing education were not readily accepted nor easily implemented, though history has shown they were critical to advancing our field. He overcame controversy to improve the quality of care for patients, to achieve parity for nurses with other health professionals and to generate a humanistic and compassionate experience for patients and families.

Today in Rush University College of Nursing, we proudly follow in Dr. Christman's footsteps as we advance nursing education and practice. We do so with knowledge that is consistent with Dr. Christman's vision and with the insightfulness and the courage to choose what is right over what is easy. His life is his legacy — courageous and determined to make the world a better place to live by being the best nurses we can be.

Best wishes,

Melanie C. Dreher, PhD, RN, FAAN  
John L. and Helen Kellogg Dean  
Rush University College of Nursing

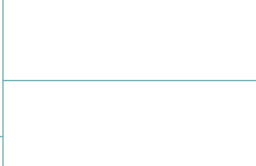
## RUSH COMMUNITY HONORS CHRISTMAN THROUGH SYMPOSIUM, SCHOLARSHIP

On Sunday, Nov. 6, a two-hour tribute symposium at Rush will honor the many contributions of Luther P. Christman, PhD, RN, FAAN. Speakers — including Dean Dreher; Jane Llewellyn, PhD, RN (PhD 1982); Sue Hegyvary, PhD; representatives from the American Assembly for Men in Nursing and more — will explore Christman's impact in areas such as nursing quality, establishment of the practitioner-teacher model, promoting men in nursing and many more. A reception will follow.

To register or for more information, contact Rebecca Darmoc at (312) 942-5006 or [Rebecca\\_Darmoc@rush.edu](mailto:Rebecca_Darmoc@rush.edu). Space is limited.

Additionally, Rush is accepting contributions to the Dorothy and Luther Christman Endowed Scholarship for Nursing at Rush. The Golden Lamp Society presents this award to two DNP students each year in recognition of their scholarly achievements.

To make a gift to this scholarship in Christman's memory, please visit [www.rush.edu/giveonline](http://www.rush.edu/giveonline) or contact Lydia Nash in the Office of Philanthropy at (312) 942-7199 or [Lydia\\_Nash@rush.edu](mailto:Lydia_Nash@rush.edu)



## ALUMNA PROFILE: EILEEN DWYER, MS 2001

DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF TRANSFORMATION, RUSH UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL CENTER

In her role in Rush's Office of Transformation, Rush alumna and nurse Eileen Dwyer, MS, RN, has helped to direct the planning, design, development and construction of Rush's new Tower hospital facility, opening to patients this January. *News & Views* spoke with Dwyer about the critical role Rush's nurses have played in designing this one-of-a-kind new building.

### Where do we see nurses' input in the Tower?

The biggest visible impact of nurses' input is the actual shape of the Herb Family Acute and Critical Care Tower, floors 10 through 14 of the Tower. We knew we needed standardized rooms with everything located in the same place in every single patient room, and we knew our patients needed a lot of natural light in their rooms. To accomplish that, we were looking at units with lots of long hallways, which isn't great from a caregiver's perspective. Our nurses said they need to be as close to the patient as possible, and they need quick and easy access to the supplies they use most.

The result was a butterfly-shaped bed tower, comprising four triangle-shaped units on each floor, with a staff work station at the center of each unit and access to supplies located in the tip of each of these units. All of these decisions were driven by clinical staff telling us what they need to do their jobs most effectively.

### What value have nurses added to the planning process?

Nurses were critical to the design of Rush's new Tower because of their keen understanding of clinician work flow, patient safety, and the patient and family experience. For example, we plan to put kidney dialysis hookups in every critical care patient room, but when clinicians toured a mockup of the patient rooms, they demonstrated that the hookups were located too low to the ground to be convenient. They were absolutely right, and they saved us from making a very costly mistake. They've provided input on everything from infection control around sinks to the best way to transport newborns from the delivery room to the NICU.

### Are many hospitals incorporating the nursing perspective in their design?

More and more hospitals and medical centers are turning to their clinicians for input. Last year, I was involved in a pilot program that the Joint Commission Resources and health care furniture design company Herman Miller organized to teach health care professionals about the design and building process, which is great. That kind of input can only lead to better care, more effective work flow for the clinical staff and an improved experience for patients and families.



*"Nurses were critical to the design of Rush's new Tower because of their keen understanding of clinician work flow, patient safety, and the patient and family experience."*

Take a virtual tour of Rush's new Tower at  
<http://transforming.rush.edu>.





## COLLEGE NEWS

### FACULTY NEWS ::

**BETH NACHTSHEIM BOLICK, DNP, CNP-AC, PNP-BC, CCRN (MSN 1995, CERT. 1995, DNP 2007)**, associate professor; interim chairperson of women, children and family nursing and specialty coordinator of the Acute/Chronic Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Program, has co-edited a new nursing textbook. *Pediatric Acute Care: A Guide for Interprofessional Practice*, released July 25 through Jones & Bartlett Publishers, is a reference for practice and a resource for training health care professionals across the spectrum of pediatrics.

**LYNNE T. BRAUN, PhD, CNP, RN, FAAN (MSN 1980, CERT. 1997)**, professor of adult health and gerontological nursing, has been named "Healthcare Volunteer of the Year" by the American Heart Association. The honor recognizes outstanding contributions to the care of cardiovascular disease and stroke patients or to improvements in health care delivery. Braun also became chairperson of the American Heart Association's Council on Cardiovascular Nursing on July 1.

**ELIZABETH CARLSON, PhD, RN (DNSc 1988)**, associate professor of adult health and gerontological nursing; **RUTH KLEINPELL, PhD, RN, FAAN, FCCM (CERT. 1995)**, professor of adult health and gerontological nursing and director of Rush's Center for Clinical Research and Scholarship; **MELANIE DREHER, PhD, RN, FAAN**, John L. and Helen Kellogg Dean of Rush University College of Nursing; **JANE LLEWELLYN, PhD, RN, NEA-BC (DNSc 1982)**, former vice president, chief nursing officer and associate dean for practice; **RUSH UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER** and **RUSH UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF NURSING** have been selected by Sigma Theta Tau International (STTI) nursing honor society as recipients of 2011 International Awards for Nursing Excellence. Rush will receive the Practice Academe Innovative Collaboration Award at STTI's 41st Biennial Convention in Grapevine, Texas, Oct. 29 through Nov. 2. The award recognizes Rush's critical role in establishing and refining the practitioner-teacher model and its ongoing success in strengthening clinical nursing practice, research and education.

**ELIZABETH CARLSON, PhD, RN (DNSc 1988); ARLENE MILLER, PhD, RN, FAAN**, chairperson of community, systems and mental health nursing; and **WRENETHA JULION, PhD, MPH, RN (DNSc 2002)**, associate professor of women, children and family nursing, were each selected for fellowship in the Institute of Medicine of Chicago.

**AMY MANION, MSN, CPNP, RN (CERT. 1996)**, assistant professor of women, children and family nursing, was nominated as one of *Chicago Parent* magazine's Chicago's Favorite Kids Docs.

**BARBARA SWANSON, PhD, RN, ACRN (DNSc 1991)**, director of adult health nursing, was selected for fellowship in the American Academy of Nursing and was also selected Mentor of the Year by the Graduate College of Rush University.

**MARILYN WIDEMAN, DNP, RN-BC (DNP 2007)**, director of faculty practice and outreach and associate professor of community, systems and mental health nursing, has received a grant of more than \$211,000 from the Health Resources and Services Administration to expand Rush's school-based health centers at Richard T. Crane Technical Preparatory Common School, Orr Academy High School and Simpson Academy for Young Women. Funded through the Affordable Care Act, the grant will provide capital expenses to expand the capacity of these clinics. Wideman also was accepted to the American Association of Colleges of Nursing Leadership for Academic Nursing Program.

### STUDENT NEWS ::

The Council on Accreditation of Nurse Anesthesia Educational Programs reported a 100 percent first-time pass rate for 2010 graduates of Rush's Nurse Anesthesia Program on the national certification examination.

Four College of Nursing students — Lacie Durand, Elizabeth Martin, Regine Michel and Katie Tomarelli — have been named to the Chicago Area Schweitzer Fellowship program for 2011–2012. This year 31 students from across the Chicago area were selected for the program.





## CLASS NOTES

### ST. LUKE'S ::

**CAROL PHILLIPS, 1946**, of Durham, N.C., writes, "I'm happily vertical and enjoying taking classes at Duke. Any other 46B folks out there? I'd like to hear."

**VIRGINIA ZWITT, 1951**, has moved back to the Chicago area from Mobile, Ala. She now lives in Hoffman Estates, Ill.

**BARBARA SEXTON OLSON, 1957**, and her husband, Charles, have lived in Modesto, Calif., since 1965. Charles was an intern at St. Luke's Hospital from 1957 to 1958, and Olson writes that the couple "have many fond memories of our years of training at St. Luke's." She is a retired ER nurse, and he is a retired surgeon. The couple has four grown children.

### PRESBYTERIAN ::

**DARLENE SHARP STELZRIED, 1959**, of Hot Springs, Ark., is semi-retired, but writes that she stays busy by "counseling, gardening, doing water aerobics, singing in two choirs, lovin' on my grandsons — ages 10 and 8 — and keeping up (well, almost) with professional journals. Would love to hear from you!"

### PRESBYTERIAN-ST.LUKE'S ::

**MARY WALSH HEBDEN, 1965**, of Arlington Heights, Ill., has retired as a clinical coordinator and now is a per diem nurse with Advocate Medical Group in Glenview, Ill.

### RUSH ::

**RUTHANNE TAYLOR, BSN 1983, MSN 1989, DNP 1996**, left for Antarctica in August to work as one of the medical providers at McMurdo Station. Taylor has previously worked in Chad, Africa; Votkinsk, Russia and Kathmandu, Nepal.

**BRANDON BENNETT, MSN 1984**, of Denver is president and CEO of Brandon G. Bennett, LLC, providing health care consulting and interim leadership services.

**TOM MURPHY, BSN 1984**, of Mokena, Ill., has transitioned from his previous role as vice president of surgical services at MacNeal Hospital in Berwyn, Ill., to start Murphy Medical Consulting. His new business venture is focused on improving the financial and clinical outcomes of surgical services.

**KOBY F. AYLOR, BSN 1991**, is clinical coordinator of hospital services at Oaklawn Hospital in Marshall, Mich.

**SUSAN O'CONNER-VON, DNSc 2001**, of St. Paul, Minn., associate professor at the University of Minnesota School of Nursing, is serving as an expert faculty member of a U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, Rural Health Workforce Development Program grant entitled "Minnesota Health Net's Palliative Care Initiative." The goal of the program is to educate, support, recruit and retain primary care providers and other health care professionals who are committed to providing palliative care in the Minnesota health network.

**LINDA WINKE, MSN 2005**, of Chicago is a nurse practitioner with NorthShore University HealthSystem in Evanston, Ill.

**CHERIE L. TUBEILEH, CERT. 2007**, of Ottawa Hills, Ohio, spent the last three years working in Monroe, Mich., as a psychiatric registered nurse and nurse practitioner. She is excited about her new job as a psychiatric-mental health nurse practitioner with Unison Behavioral Group in Toledo, Ohio. She writes, "A great opportunity — and closer to home!"

**DANA MERK, MSN 2010**, of Chicago is a labor and delivery registered nurse at Evanston Hospital.

**JAUNA D. PATTERSON, DNP 2010**, of McDonough, Ga., is a cardiology nurse practitioner in ambulatory care with Atlanta Heart Associates in Stockbridge, Ga.

**ADAM SPURLOCK, MSN 2010**, spent the summer working as a site nurse for Johns Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth Program at the University of California Berkeley, where he was responsible for all medical care of students and staff during this summer-long civil leadership program. He has accepted a position as a registered nurse in the Emergency Department at Rush Oak Park Hospital beginning this fall.

## RECONNECT WITH THESE CLASSMATES ::

If you're interested in reconnecting with any of the alumni featured in Class Notes, contact the Office of Alumni Relations at [alumni@rush.edu](mailto:alumni@rush.edu) or (312) 942-2569.



## IN MEMORIAM



### ST. LUKE'S ::

RUBY M. CROCKER, 1932, of Kent City, Mich.

JANET COZAD GATES, 1936, of Sisters, Ore.; Feb. 3, 2009

TWYLLA MAE KNAKE, 1945, of Bend, Ore.; May 25, 2011

KATHLEEN MORTELL STAFFORD, 1948, of Chicago; May 12, 2011

JANE DRUIF CRUMPLER, 1952, of Zumbrota, Minn.; May 22, 2011

MARGIE L. CRAGO STAPLETON, 1952, of Woodland, Calif.; Jan. 21, 2008

MARILYN BRONS KEENER, 1953, of Champaign, Ill.

SHERYL WOODY LINSENMAYER, 1958, of McCormick, S.C.; April 22, 2011

### PRESBYTERIAN ::

MILDRED TYCHSEN GUSTAFSON, 1944, of Aurora, Colo.; June 1, 2011

MARION STROBERG NYBOER, 1944, of Holland, Mich.; June 24, 2011

RUTH FRIZ JAKUBAUSKAS, 1946, of Fort Collins, Colo.; July 17, 2011

PHYLLIS MUNTER BALK, 1951, of Huntley, Ill., died May 4, 2011, at the age of 81. During her career, Balk worked as an occupational health nurse for Deere & Company in Moline, Ill., as a clinic head nurse and emergency head nurse at Presbyterian-St. Luke's Hospital and as an occupational health nurse with Manufacturer's Hanover Bank (now part of Chase). Well known for her activism and volunteerism, Balk worked with the Girl Scouts and Chicago's Beacon House, helped foreign immigrants settle in the U.S. and led a highly publicized public protest to save New York City's Hunter College High School, where she served as PTA president, from closure due to budget cuts. Balk was also a member of the Golden Lamp Society, the giving society for Rush University College of Nursing. Her husband, journalist Alfred Balk, predeceased her in 2010. She is survived by two daughters and two grandchildren.

CHARLINE STENSLAND KOMAY, 1951, of Fox River Grove, Ill.; June 11, 2011

JOANNE WOOD LINDSTROM, 1953, of Wheaton, Ill.; July 31, 2011

GLORIA BERNATH, 1955, of Sarasota, Fla.; Feb. 17, 2011

MIRIAM BIXEL WATERMAN, 1956, of Tucson, Ariz.; May 1, 2011

### PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S ::

MARIBETH ADDUCIE NOLAN, 1961, of Williston, N.D.; Nov. 28, 2010

DONNA LEE PARKER, 1961, of Danville, Ill.; June 9, 2008

### RUSH ::

LOLA MAE JOHNSON, DNSc 2002, of Rochester, Minn.; Feb. 16, 2011

## EXPLORE RUSH'S NEW HOSPITAL, OPENING IN JANUARY

Rush's new hospital facility, the Tower, opens to patients on Monday, Jan. 9, 2012. Designed with extensive input from nurses and other caregivers, the Tower brings together highly skilled staff and sophisticated imaging, surgical and electronic health record technology in one of the nation's most advanced hospital facilities.

Visit <http://transforming.rush.edu> to learn more and take a virtual tour of the Tower.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JIM NOWAK, PERKINS+WILL



## LYDIA NASH JOINS RUSH'S OFFICE OF ALUMNI RELATIONS

As of July 2011, Lydia Nash has joined the Office of Alumni Relations as director of development and alumni relations.

Nash came to Rush from Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tenn., where she served as associate director of development for the School of Engineering. Prior to that, she executed campaign strategy for Vanderbilt's Shape the Future campaign, a \$1.75 billion comprehensive fundraising campaign. Nash has a bachelor's degree from Vanderbilt in political science and communication studies.



"I am thrilled to be part of the Rush family," Nash said. "The College of Nursing has long been a pioneer and leader in nursing education, and I feel fortunate to have the opportunity to work with such generous and dedicated alumni."

At Rush Nash will serve as the Office of Alumni Relations' primary liaison to the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association, coordinate fundraising and volunteer opportunities for alumni, and facilitate alumni connections with Rush and with each other, among other responsibilities."

### THREE WAYS TO KEEP IN TOUCH ::

- 1 Post your news on our Facebook page at  
[www.facebook.com/rushuniversityalumni](http://www.facebook.com/rushuniversityalumni)
- 2 Submit your class note online at  
[www.con.rushalumni.org/contact](http://www.con.rushalumni.org/contact)
- 3 Send your personal updates or suggestions for *News & Views* to  
**Office of Alumni Relations**  
Rush University Medical Center  
1700 W. Van Buren St., Suite 250  
Chicago, IL 60612  
or by email at  
[alumni@rush.edu](mailto:alumni@rush.edu)

## news & views

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*News & Views* is published twice a year by the Office of Philanthropy and Alumni Relations and the Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Nurses Alumni Association.

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 RUSH UNIVERSITY

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and community

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Nursing Networks: Nurses' Role in the Design of Hospitals and New Models for Care**

Thursday, October 27, 2011

5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Union League Club

65 West Jackson Boulevard, Chicago

*\*This CNE activity is being offered for one contact hour. For more information, contact Kelly Parker at [Kelly\\_Parker@rush.edu](mailto:Kelly_Parker@rush.edu) or (312) 942-0699.*

**Luther P. Christman Tribute Symposium**

Sunday, November 6, 2011

10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Rush University Medical Center

Searle Conference Center — Fifth Floor

1725 West Harrison Street, Chicago

*Space is limited. For information contact Rebecca Darmoc in the College of Nursing at (312) 942-5006 or RSVP online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/christman>.*

# news & views

FALL 2011

## RUSH-PRESBYTERIAN-ST. LUKE'S NURSES ALUMNI ASSOCIATION 2010 – 2012 BOARD ROSTER

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